

ALAMO TOWNSHIP BOARD MEETING

July 14, 2014

Alamo Township Hall
7901 NORTH 6th STREET
KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN 49009

Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Supervisor Conti.

The Pledge of Allegiance was cited and an invocation was given by Trustee Potter-Williams.

Attendance: Supervisor Conti, Treasurer Stoneburner, Clerk Endres, Trustees Potter-William and VanderWeele.
Other interested parties 16 +/- individuals.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES:

MOTION was made by Trustee VanderWeele to approve the meeting minutes for July 14, 2014 as written, Supported by Trustee Potter –Williams. Motion Carried 4-1. Treasurer Stoneburner Opposed.

AUTHORIZATION OF LIBILITIES:

MOTION was made by Clerk Endres to grant permission to pay outstanding invoices, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion carried 5-0.

REPORTS:

➤ **SUPERVISOR:**

Supervisor Conti announced: That after a year and a half of planning the board passed road plan to “Build a Better Alamo” has begun with the first road segment of the plan (the Hart Drive / 9th Street, F Avenue corridor); the start of a study of the US 131 and D Avenue interchange (commercial & Industrial zoned area of the township) by the Economic Development Committee; and the beginning of work at the Westgate 5th Street Rector Park by creating a new gateway to the Kal-Haven trail. Conti thanked the Jirgens Family for all their help in seeing this project could happen.

➤ **CLERK:**

June 2014 liabilities: \$38,918.01

Clerk Endres has been preparing for the Primary Election to be held August 5, 2014 with sending and receiving Absentee Voter applications and issuing their ballots. Endres reminded all that if you are on the permanent Absentee Voter List you will receive an application to vote for each election that is held. This application must be filled out, just like the form that you fill out when you come in to vote, before a ballot can be issued, so if you are receiving this application rest assured you are on the permanent list.

Cemetery income for June 2014: \$725.40

➤ **TREASURER:**

- General Account: \$ 99,905.93
- Trust & Agency: \$ 621.56 (money goes in and out)
- Current Tax: \$ 1,508.23 (paid put twice a month)
- Fire Truck Fund: \$ 18,238.64
- Surplus Account: \$ 61,953.59 (not a CD)
- CD (PNC): \$ 50,969.79

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- Savings Account: \$250,069.97
- Insured Cash Sweep Money Market Savings: \$233,407.90
- Kalamazoo Foundation: \$100,229.37 (Supervisor Conti provided balance)

Treasurer Stoneburner informed all of the soon to expire CD that is held at PNC Bank, she wanted to know what action the board wanted her to take regarding this matter.

MOTION was made by Trustee Potter-Williams that the soon to expire PNC CD be moved to either a PNC savings (provided balance is under maximum amount held to be covered - FDIC) or to be moved to the Insured cash sweep account at First National, Supported by Trustee VanderWeele. Motion Carried 5-0.

➤ **BUILDING DEPARTMENT:**

○ Building Permits	4	\$3,500.00
○ Electrical Permits	3	\$420.00
○ Mechanical Permits	7	\$620.00
○ Outdoor Wood Boiler	0	
Totals	14	\$4540.00

▪ **FIRE AND RESCUE:**

Chief Kizer reported the Fire Department responding to 23 incidents the month of February.

- 12 Medical Emergencies
- 5 Vehicle accidents
- 3 False Alarms/misc.
- 1 Brush Fire
- 1 Structure Fire (assist cooper)
- 1 Car Fire

Training: for the month of April included Standard Operation Guideline Review & Search and Rescue (at the County Training Center) and there are four fire fighters scheduled to go to Agricultural Training.

Operations: Central Dispatch is moving forward with run cards and mapping; and the SCBA grant should be fulfilled with the Department receiving its new Packs around July 28, 2014. Kizer reported working on getting bids to repair ice damage to the barn roof.

Personnel: The Chief has begun the application process for Assistant Chief with hopes of having a newly

appointed Assistant by mid-August. Chief Kizer presented the names of three new firefighters, Bob Baily, Jeremy Kent, and Taylor Kizer, for hire. The three hired will utilize used equipment and will do grunt work (as Kizer referred to it) such as rolling hoses and cleaning. Clerk Endres inquired as to the cost to train and outfit a new Volunteer Firefighter? Kizer gave a rough estimate of \$5,000.00 per firefighter. Endres voiced concerns about hiring an individual who will be a student in the fall that will only be home on weekends. The board was assured that it wouldn't cost the township anything as he would be using used equipment and we would not have to pay for his training.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to hire Bob Baily, Jeremy Kent, and Taylor Kizer as an Alamo Township volunteer firefighter based on a clean complete background check, Supported by Treasurer Stoneburner. Motion Carried 5-0.

➤ **PLANNING COMMISION:**

Chair Covault reported suspending the Zoning Changes Hearing with the plan to complete the project next month. Plans to hold the Public Hearing regarding the Land Use Plan are expected to take place in September. Covault spoke to the board of the important roll the Building Inspector plays in the township. Current building inspector Kevin Cardiff is a great Asset who takes the pressure off the planning commission; he not only reviews and performs inspections but is able to reference the requests with the zoning ordinances. Covault would like the board to consider bringing in an assistant trainee to work with Cardiff to cover for him in cases of emergency.

➤ **PARK BOARD:**

Supervisor Conti reported that after the scheduled July 15, 2014 Public Hearing the 5th Street Bridge will be declared abandon and will become Alamo Township Property; once that has been accomplished work can begin on the 5th Street / Kal-Haven gateway. The barrier free sidewalk project should be completed by months end.

OLD BUSINESS:

▪ **Economic Development Committee:**

The Economic Development Committee will be looking at the D Avenue and 131 commercial & Industrial zone interchange area. They will report their findings to the board. Their hope is finding a solution to overcome the barriers that have hindered the development of this important intersection.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to nominate Dan Sheffers, Tony Labretto, Belden Smith and Dewayne Bogard to the EDC, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.

NEW BUSINESS:

▪ **WEB PAGE, BUSINESS EXCHANGE:**

Supervisor Conti asked the board to consider creating an additional page on the Web site as a Business Exchange Page. This page would serve as a place resident business owners can post their business with services available for hire. The main objective is to promote hiring local, therefore advertisers must be a resident to advertise on the site.

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to create a Business Exchange Page on the Townships Web site, cost to create addition not to exceed \$100.00. Advertisements good for a year, Advertisers must be resident of township and must supply insurance certificate, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 4-1, Treasurer Stoneburner Opposed.

▪ **FIRE DEPARATMENT USE PLAN FOR USE OF 'C' AVENUE PROPERTY:**

The Fire Department submitted a Training use plan for the Alamo 'C' Avenue Park which outlined the types of training opportunities that the Fire Deparatment may wish to perform at this site. They will be required to provide contact information and a use schedule to the Parks Department.

MOTION was made by Clerk Endres to accept the use plan, to outline contact person and use schedule, submitted by the Alamo Township Fire Department for its use of the townships 'C' Avenue Park Property, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

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- **AUDIT REPORT / DEVELOPMENT FUND:**

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to transfer positive budget variance of \$37,533.00 into the Infrastructure Development Fund, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.

- **WELCOME WAGON LETTER:**

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to approve sending out a Welcome Wagon Letter to New Residents of the Township, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.

- **ANNUAL SAND AND GRAVEL OPERATIONS INSPECTONS CONTRACT:**

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to approve the Annual Sand and Gravel Operations Inspection contract between Alamo Township and Landes Consulting, Supported by Trustee Potter-Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

- **ASSESSOR, COMBINATION RATE:**

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to approve a rate raise for Parcel Combinations from \$75.00 to \$150.00, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.

- **APPOINT ELECTION INSPECTORS FOR AUGUST PRIMARY ELECTION:**

MOTION was made by Clerk Endres to appoint Ilse Gebhard, Paula Baker, Nancy Nichols, Alyce Bosma, Lorie Ward, Dave Cramer, Georden Endres, Garilyn Sportel-Bogard, Barb Venama (Chairperson), and Michelle Forrest (Chairperson) as election inspectors for the Augst 5th Primary Election, Supported by Trustee Potter - Williams. Motion Carried 5-0.

CITIZEN COMMENT:

Comments were heard regarding road signage being politically based.

BOARD MEMBER TIME:

Trustee VanderWeele inquired about the public comment period to be held July 23rd in Pine Grove Township for the special exemption use permit for Nobel Dairy Farm which would allow them to spread farm animal waste over the farm fields in Alamo. She also questioned missing docs on the web site.

Treasurer Stoneburner questioned Deputy Supervisor Pay.

Supervisor Conti announced projects in the works that include an Energy seminar to be held at the township to teach residents energy conservation practices and a possible Tour De Alamo Bike Race.

ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION was made by Supervisor Conti to adjourn meeting at 8:50 pm, Supported by Clerk Endres. Motion Carried 5-0.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Endres
Alamo Township Clerk